
PIKAIA LODGE

08 days / 07 nights

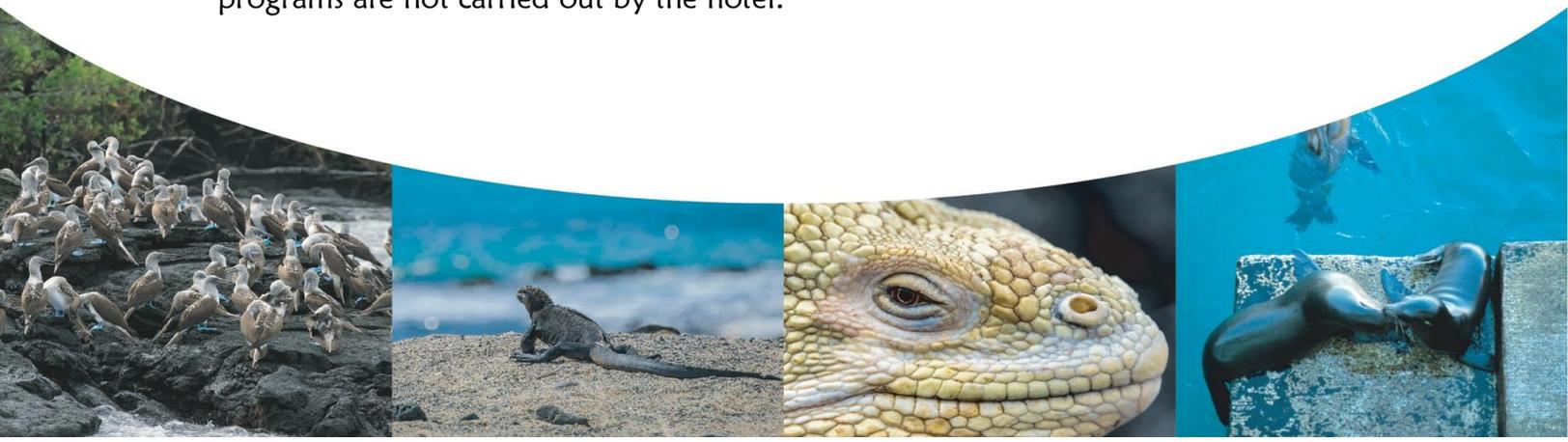
Itinerary:

Day 01: Monday - Arrival at Pikaia Lodge / (L, D)

This morning you will check in at the Quito or the Guayaquil international airport. (NOTE: The flight time from Quito to Guayaquil is 40 minutes, plus a 40-minute layover, while the flight time from Guayaquil Airport to the Galapagos Islands is 1 hour and 40 minutes. Arriving in the Galapagos archipelago on Baltra Island, you will have VIP access to the lounge there. A Pikaia representative will meet you there and accompany you first to the Itabaca Channel for a seven-minute ferry crossing to Santa Cruz Island. From there, you will take a scenic 50-minute trip in private transportation to the Pikaia Lodge. After checking in, you will have lunch in the lodge's Evolution Restaurant or on the Pool Terrace. For the rest of the afternoon, you will have a chance to relax and familiarize yourself with the lodge's environment and facilities. We recommend walking, jogging, or cycling the 3.5 km of trails on the lodge's grounds, or a swim in the pool. Good chance of encountering a resident tortoise within the Property. Later, a tour briefing with a complimentary welcome cocktail is offered at DNA Bar. Dinner at Evolution Restaurant. After dinner, a 3D HD documentary on Galapagos filmed by Sir David Attenborough will be shown in the Homo Sapiens Explorers Lounge

Day 02: Tuesday - Half-day land exploration at Santa Cruz Island / (B, L, D)

Each morning activities are planned according to weather conditions and tide charts. Guest will join groups of maximum 16 people for the land tours, and two or three activities will be chosen from the list below. Guests can relax and enjoy their days at the Lodge independently as well. Mountain bikes, helmets, snorkeling equipment, and wetsuits are available without charge at the front desk or onboard our yacht. It is recommended to pre-book early to take advantage of any optional third-party activities not included in the package. All extra activities, such as mountain biking, kayaking, catch and release fishing, and diving, might have an extra cost (e.g. taxis, gear, guides, depending on activity and time.) Please note that these optional programs are not carried out by the hotel.



Day 03: Wednesday – Yacht exploration to Bartolomé Island and Chinese Hat / (B, L, D)

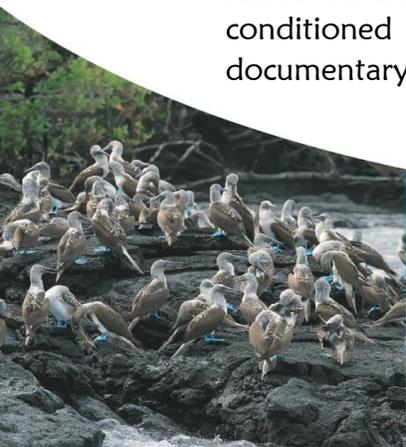
The yacht cruise is a full-day program onboard Pikaia I Yacht. Private cabins are assigned and guests have the option to have breakfast onboard. On arrival on the island, the morning offers hiking or snorkeling activities until midday. A lunch buffet with traditional Ecuadorian food is served while the yacht sails to the next point of visit for an afternoon exploration. Two hours before sunset the yacht sets sail for Pikaia Lodge. While sailing, our guests can rest, shower, or freshen up in their air-conditioned private cabins, soak in the jacuzzi, watch a Galapagos documentary, join a discussion with guides, sunbathe or watch for seabirds or dolphins. After dinner, a 3D HD documentary on Galapagos by Sir Attenborough will be shown in the Explorers Lounge.

Day 04: Thursday – Half-day land exploration at Santa Cruz Island / (B, L, D)

After a full American breakfast, we will spend the morning exploring Santa Cruz Island. One option is of the most visited spots in Santa Cruz: The Charles Darwin Research Station. This facility is primarily an international scientific research station situated on the outskirts of Puerto Ayora. Visitors go here to learn about the geology, climate, natural history, and conservation of the Galapagos Islands. After the morning activity, we will head back to the lodge for lunch, activities on the grounds of the lodge, and dinner at the Evolution Restaurant.

Day 05: Friday – Yacht exploration to Santa Fe Island and South Plaza Island / (B, L, D)

Today we will go on a full-day yacht cruise on board the lodge's Pikaia I yacht. Private cabins are assigned and guests have the option of having breakfast onboard Pikaia I. Upon arrival on Santa Fe Island, the morning offers hiking or snorkeling activities until midday. Lunch buffet with typical Ecuadorian food is served while the yacht sails to South Plaza Island for afternoon exploring. This tiny, rocky island covered in small Palo Santo trees and six-meter-high opuntia cactuses. The island is inhabited mainly by large yellow land iguanas, Galapagos buzzards, Blue-footed boobies and pelicans. While snorkeling in the wonderful blue-green bay in which the ship anchors, you can observe the many inhabitants of this underwater world, including countless tropical fish, rays, sea turtles and playful sea lions. Two hours before sunset the yacht will set sail for Pikaia Lodge. While sailing, you can relax, shower, or freshen up in their air-conditioned private cabins, as well as soak in the Jacuzzi, watch a Galapagos documentary, join a discussion with guides, sunbathe or watch for dolphins.



Day 06: Saturday – Yacht exploration to North Seymour Island and Mosquera Island / (B, L, D)

Following breakfast on board the lodge's yacht, we will make a dry landing on North Seymour Island and take a short walk along its coast. Here, you will encounter Swallow-tailed gulls, sea lions, and Cliff crabs. This part of Seymour Island is also known for being a major nesting site for Blue-footed boobies and one of the largest colonies of magnificent frigatebirds (a species different from the Great frigatebird). As you enjoy this relaxing hike around various nesting sites, you can also spot both the endemic species of iguanas: marine iguanas and land iguanas. In the afternoon, we will anchor off Mosquera Island, which is located near Itabaca Channel and in between the Baltra and Seymour islands. The island consists of a long narrow stretch of white sand, rocks, and small lagoons with large populations of sea lions (in fact, this is one of the best places to take photos of these aquatic mammals). After a wet landing, a stroll down the beach will also permit views of Brown pelicans and Blue-footed boobies.

Day 07: Sunday – Half-day land exploration at Santa Cruz Island / (B, L, D)

After a full American breakfast, this morning we continue to tour Santa Cruz Island. We will later head back to the lodge for lunch, activities on the grounds of the lodge, and dinner at the Evolution Restaurant.

Day 08: Departure / (B)

Hotel check-out time according to your flight schedule. You will be driven to the Baltra Island Airport and assisted with checking in for a return flight to Guayaquil or Quito.

Note: Itineraries are subject to change without notice due to seasonal changes, last-minute weather conditions, and adjustments of Galapagos National Park policies

What to bring to Galapagos Islands?

Wearables: Sun Hat, cap or bandana, cotton t-shirt, cotton expedition shirt, safari shirts, long sleeve shirts, hiking shorts or light full-length hiking pants, water shoes with non-slippery soles, sandals, windbreaker jacket, sunglasses, warm sweater, casual pants, shorts, dress or skirt, bathing suit, thin and breathable socks, hiking shoes.

Small backpack, water bottle, Ziplock, dry bag, waterproof see-through phone pouch, waterproof sunblock, and lip balm (SPF 50+), insect repellent, binoculars, camera, device chargers

